## NEWS ADVISORY Steve Marshall Alabama Attorney General



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For More Information, contact:
Mike Lewis (334) 353-2199
Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491
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## ATTORNEY GENERAL STEVE MARSHALL APPLAUDS INTRODUCTION OF DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION BILLS IN ALABAMA LEGISLATURE

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall praised Senator Arthur Orr and Representative Phil Williams for introducing the Alabama Data Breach Notification Act in the Alabama Legislature Tuesday.

The bills are SB318 in the Alabama Senate and HB410 in the Alabama House.

The Data Breach Notification Act requires that business and governmental entities notify consumers when their sensitive personal information has been or is believed to have been acquired through a data breach. Alabama is one of only two states in the country that does not have a data breach notification law, though legislation has been filed in several previous legislative sessions.

"I would like to thank Senator Arthur Orr and Representative Phil Williams for sponsoring this much-needed legislation on behalf of Alabama's consumers," said Attorney General Marshall.

"My Consumer Protection Division has worked diligently with our sponsors to help craft a strong law that will better ensure that Alabama's consumers are the first to know when their sensitive personal information has been obtained through a hack. Early notification will enable consumers to take swift action to reduce threats of identity theft and fraud.

"Equifax was a wakeup call for all of us—the legitimate need for increased consumer protections was put on display and should propel the passage of this Act. It is long overdue."

For more of Attorney General Marshall's views on the need for the Data Beach Notification Act, read his February 2, 2018, <u>op-ed</u>.



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